

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of the application as now amended is requested. It is believed that this amendment overcomes all of the Examiner's objections and places the application in a condition for allowance because of the following reasons.

Claims 26-28 which were previously withdrawn from consideration have been amended to bring the claims within the Fig. 7 species. Claims 3 and 11 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims

Lofgreen discloses a household liquid dispensing system which is attached to shower head 27. A pair of refillable containers 18 and 19, mounted in a housing 17 are accessible through a pair of doors 17 D. A mixture of water and household liquid is discharged through an outlet of the shower head. Lofgreen lacks a resiliently biased control for automatically terminating the discharge of the mixture. Lofgreen also lacks an outlet on the housing 17 for discharging the mixture, a detachable hose for connecting a storage unit to the shower outlet, a valve for preventing household liquid to flow out of the containers 18 and 19 when they are removed from the housing 17. Lofgreen neither suggests, nor provides any teaching or motivation nor for storing household fluids in three containers.

Nowicki discloses a pump with a proportioner 20 for dispensing a household liquid in combination with a sink. chemical comprised of a pump 12 and a proportioner 20. The proportioner is mounted on an outlet of a sink faucet such that when the faucet is opened a vacuum from the proportioner depresses a piston 52 in the pump to discharge a predetermined amount of household liquid from a chamber 62. The piston 52 remains


depressed and the chamber 62 remains empty so long as water flows through the proportioner 20. When the flow of water is cut off, the piston 52 returns to its initial position, and the chemical chamber 62 is automatically re-filled (Nowicki col. 4, line 49 to col. 5, line 20). The household liquid is not mixed with the water of the sink.

Independent claims 1, 16, 17, 26 and 28 are patentably distinguishable from Lofgreen, Nowicki and Lofgreen over Nowick by the following differences: The claims define a household liquid dispensing system in combination with a laundry tub. The system is comprised of a storage unit having an outlet for dispensing a mixture of water and the household liquid. The storage unit is mounted on a wall and is detachably connected to an outlet of the laundry tub with a hose. In the interior of the storage unit is a container for storing the liquid. A valve in the container prevents the household liquid from flowing out of the container when the container is removed from the storage unit and allows the household fluid to flow out of the container when the container is in the storage unit. A resilient biased valve regulates the amount of fluid which is mixed with water and which automatically terminates the discharge of mixture when the control is released.

Since the remaining claims depend from the above claims, for the same reasons as the above claims they are parentally distinguishable from the cited references.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in a condition for allowance and such favorable action by the Examiner is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Rhodes", is written over a horizontal line.

Alex Rhodes, Reg. No. 26,797
Attorney of Record
30100 Telegraph Road, Suite 336
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
Tel. (248) 646-4400
Fax. (248) 644-8849

Dated: October 17, 2003